

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please cancel claim 3 without prejudice and amend claims 1, 4, and 8-11 as follows:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A recording system for recording and/or reserving a program, comprising:

means for accepting a request to record and/or reserve a program;

local storage means for recording the program;

connection means for connecting, via a wide area network, with an external device which is external to the recording system;

determination means for determining a malfunction in the local storage means wherein the malfunction disables recording ~~whether it is possible to record~~ the program requested to be recorded and/or reserved on the local storage means; and

means for issuing a recording substitution request to the external device for recording the program, via the wide area network by said connection means, in response to a ~~negative result output by said determination means~~ determining the malfunction in the local storage means.

2. (Previously Presented) The recording system according to claim 1, wherein said determination means generates a negative result when a remaining capacity of said storage means is not sufficient for recording a program requested to be recorded and/or reserved.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Currently Amended) A recording substitution system for substitutionally recording a program, comprising:

connection means for connecting via a wide area network with external devices which are external to the recording substitution system;

means for receiving a program;

storage means for recording the program;

recording substitution means for responding to reception of a recording substitution request from at least one of the external devices via said connection means and for receiving and recording a program₁ corresponding to the request₁ in said storage means; and

user information management means for storing user information about each requesting origin,

wherein said recording substitution means obtains advertising information appropriate for a user attribute of the requesting origin from another external device via the wide area network by said connection means and wherein said recording substitution means one of (a) ~~inserts~~ stores said advertising information ~~in a recorded program stored~~ in the storage means as an insert in a recorded program stored in the storage means in addition to original commercial information included in the recorded program and (b) ~~substitutes~~ stores said advertising information in the storage means as a substitute for the original commercial information included in the recorded program stored in the storage means.

5. (Previously Presented) The recording substitution system according to claim 4, wherein said recording substitution means can receive recording substitution requests from a plurality of external devices and records a program corresponding to a requesting origin.

6. (Previously Presented) The recording substitution system according to claim 4 further comprising user information management means for storing user information about each requesting origin, wherein said recording substitution means records a program in a format appropriate for a user attribute of the requesting origin.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A recording system for recording and/or reserving a program, comprising:

a request accepting portion configured to accept a request to record and/or reserve a program;

a local storage portion configured to record a program;

a connection portion configured to connect, via a wide area network with an external storage device external to the recording system;

a determination portion configured to determine a malfunction in the local storage portion, wherein the malfunction disables recording the whether the local storage portion contains sufficient space to record a program requested to be recorded and/or reserved; and

an issue portion configured to automatically issue a recording substitution request, to the external storage device via the wide area network through the connection portion, in

response to ~~negative result output from~~ the determination portion determining the malfunction in the local storage portion.

9. (Currently Amended) A recording substitution system for
substitutionally recording a program, comprising:

receiving portion configured to receive a program;

a storage portion configured to record the program;

a connection portion configured to connect via a wide area network with external
devices; and

recording substitution portion configured to (a) respond to reception of a
recording substitution request from at least one of the external devices via said connection
portion, and (b) receive and record a corresponding program in said storage portion, and wherein
the recording substitution portion is configured to [(c)] one of (1) store ~~replace~~ advertising
~~content in the recorded program stored in the storage portion with~~ new advertising content,
received from another external device, in the storage portion as a replacement for advertising
content in the recorded program stored in the storage portion and (2) insert store additional
advertising content, received from the another external device, ~~into the recorded program~~ in the
storage portion as an insert in the recorded program stored in the storage portion.

10. (Currently Amended) The recording system according to claim 1,
wherein the external device including user information management means and a
recording substitution means; and

said user information management means for storing user information about each requesting origin,

wherein the recording substitution means obtains advertising information appropriate for a user attribute of the requesting origin via said connection means and wherein the recording substitution means one of (a) inserts said advertising information in a recorded program stored in the external device in addition to original commercial information included in the recorded program and (b) substitutes said advertising information for the original commercial information included in the recorded program.

11. (Currently Amended) The recording system according to claim 8, wherein the external device including user information management means and a recording substitution means; and

said user information management means for storing user information about each requesting origin,

wherein the recording substitution means obtains advertising information appropriate for a user attribute of the requesting origin via said connection means and wherein the recording substitution means one of (a) inserts said advertising information in a recorded program stored in the external device in addition to original commercial information included in the recorded program and (b) substitutes said advertising information for the original commercial information included in the recorded program.